

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule

The residential and recycling pickup schedule for March 7 is plastic, glass and metal. Put items in blue bags and place them on the curb.

Subway opens at APG North **Shoppette**

The Subway restaurant at Aberdeen Proving Ground North is now open for business. Its hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays.

The grand opening will be held 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., March 9, and footlong sandwiches will be buy one get one free for the day.

The ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for 2 p.m. For more information, call 410-272-4205.

Temporary closure of 57th Street

Beginning on or about March 1, 57th Street in APG South will be closed for two days to install a new waterline connection. The closure will occur between building E-3835 and Beech Point Road. Access traffic to the E-3800 block will be rerouted to Ricketts Point Road. The actual closure time and duration will depend upon weather conditions.

For more information, call Jerry Norris, Directorate of Installation Operations, 410-306-1159.

Auto Shop hours change

The Aberdeen Automotive Craft Center, building 2379, new hours of operation are: Thursday, 3 to 7 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday and training holiday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.; and closed Monday through Wednesday and holidays.

The center provides a clean, safe and earth-friendly environment while customers make repairs and perform maintenance on their privately owned vehicles and equipment. General tools and some specialty tools also are provided for convenience. The customer does the work, the center ensures quality standards are met.

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A NEW ERA IN PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

PS: 'The train is leaving the station'

YVONNE JOHNSON

This is the first of a weekly series about the new National Security Personnel System, NSPS.

Transition to the NSPS, which will affect the personnel management of government employees, goes into effect for Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison employees April 15 although many APG tenant activities have already begun participation in NSPS.

Headquarters, Army Test and Evaluation Command, Developmental Test Command, Army Evaluation Center, and

Aberdeen Test Center convert on March 18. The U.S. Army Ordnance Center & Schools, Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, RDECOM Acquisition Center, Army Contracting Agency, Army Environmental Center and the APG Garrison will convert on April 15.

Mandatory training, one day for employees and two days for supervisors affected by the conversion to NSPS, must be completed by the transition date of April 15. Dates and locations have been provided to supervisors and employees.

Wage Grade, Non-appropriated Fund and bargaining Unit Employees are not affected and will remain under the TAPES for now.

"The train has already left the station," said Ralph Cardenuto, Garrison NSPS transition manager.

"NSPS is not just coming, it's here," Cardenuto said. "It will affect almost every aspect of personnel management including pay and evaluations so people need to register for training right away because the more you know, the better prepared you will be to adapt to the new system."

"All employees should have already

taken the NSPS 101 online course which explains the elements of NSPS" said Peter Slusar, deputy transition manager, adding that the upcoming classroom training will further explain the system "so that people can ask informed questions."

For more information, employees should check with their supervisor, their Civilian Personnel Advisory Center representative or visit the Web site, http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/conversion.html.

(Editor's note: Look for the above logo in future issues of APG News to indicate the next article in the NSPS series.)



Photo by STAFF SGT. JON SOUCY

Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester, Kentucky Army National Guard's 617th Military Police Company, reads the information panels on a new War on Terrorism exhibit at the Army Women's Museum at Fort Lee, Va., during the exhibition's opening Feb. 3. The exhibit showcases the contributions women have made in the War on Terror, and features as the centerpiece a life-size diorama of the actions of Hester and her squad-mates during a March 20, 2005, ambush by insurgents near Baghdad. Hester was awarded the Silver Star for her actions, becoming the first woman to receive the medal since World War II.

New Women's Museum exhibit features Kentucky National Guard sergeant

SGT. GINA VAILE Kentucky National Guard

Women's Museum opened an exhibit recognizing the contributions of women Soldiers

during the War on Terrorism. The exhibit features Kentucky National Guard Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester, the first woman awarded the Silver Star since World War II. Hester received the medal while serving in Iraq, following a March 20, 2005, ambush near

the town of Salman Pak. "I've always been reluctant to be in the spotlight," Hester said during the unveiling. "I'm honored to be part of this event, and what the museum has done here is amazing."

unveiling ceremony.

"This event has put certain individuals - Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester and Spc. Ashley Pullen - in the public spotlight," said Maj. Gen. Donald C. Storm, Kentucky adjutant general. "Their actions during the battle of Salman Pak reignited a whirlwind of discussion across this great nation regarding the role of women in combat. Their actions were just what I expected from a pair of well-trained Kentucky National Guard Soldiers."

The exhibit features a diora-

ma of an Army High Mobility Hester, along with seven Multipurpose Wheeled Vehiother team members of the Ken- cle with Hester and Staff Sgt. More than 100 people were tucky National Guard's 617th Timothy F. Nein, the Raven 42 on hand Feb. 3 as the U.S. Army Military Police squad, Raven squad leader who also received 42, were recognized during the the Silver Star, standing in front giving directions to Soldiers during the ambush. Also featured are photos of each Soldier involved in the battle of Salman Pak and replicas of the awards they received.

The Soldiers of 4th Platoon, Second Squad, thwarted an insurgent attack on a coalition convoy March 20, 2005. After the convoy came under heavy fire, Hester "maneuvered her team through the kill zone into a flanking position where she assaulted a trench line with grenades and M203 rounds,"

See MUSEUM, page 3

APG selected for the **IPM Star Certification**

The Integrated Pest Management Institute of North America has awarded the IPM Star Certification to Aberdeen Proving Ground for its efforts in using alternative means of controlling pests.

The IPM Institute of North America is an independent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sponsored organization of integrated pest management professionals that evaluates IPM school programs.

After receiving an exceptional score of 89, APG will be the sixth installation in the Army, Department of Defense and the nation to be designated IPM Certified, according to Stanley Futch, pest controller of the Entomology Division.

The EPA and the IPM Institute of North America will visit APG to formally recognize the installation integrated pest management program, its coordinator and the installation's Child Development Center and Child and Youth Services as IPM Star Certified.

The installation's CDCs and CYSs employ a commonsense Army pest management program, called Integrated Pest Management that lowers the risk of chemical pesticide exposure to pre- and school-age children.

The IPM employs several means to manage unwanted species, including introducing natural predators, setting innovative traps, and employing a safe chemical application strategy to reduce childhood injuries from cockroaches, ants, wasps and poisonous plants. The pest management strategy also limits damage to buildings and grounds where the children play.

"This is a great accomplishment for Aberdeen Proving Ground and the Army," said Sandra Alvey, senior pest management consultant at the U.S. Army Environmental Command Preservation Branch who helped bring the program to APG. "This third-party, independent validation from the IPM Institute reinforces the Army's role as a good steward of the environment, and proves its commitment to Soldiers and their families."

IPM practices incorporate the Defense Department's IPM principles, including planning and professional oversight, high training standards, record keeping and reporting and "pesticide lite" application strategies.

See PESTS, page 7



APG chaplains hold national prayer luncheon



Pvt. Carlos Carela, 16th Ordnance Battalion, left, and Pvt. Israel Galvan, 143rd Ordnance Battalion, right, bow their heads during the National Prayer Luncheon Feb. 8 at Top of the Bay.

Story and photo by **HEATHER TASSMER**

The Aberdeen Proving Ground community gathered to recognize moral and spiritual values during the annual National Prayer Luncheon Feb. 8 at Top of the Bay.

The guest speaker was Maj. Gen. Roger A. Nadeau, commander of APG and the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command.

Garrison Chaplain (Col.) James Jagielski gave the invocation and welcoming remarks. "Be with us in the time of national prayer,

slow us down and clear our minds of the clutter that can blind us to you," Jagielski said, adding that it is easy to get distracted from God in the fast-paced and technological society. "You need to pull yourself away from the technological and other things so you can be present to God in silence. I'm convinced that most of us talk a lot to God...but how many times do we listen to God in silence?"

The program included scripture readings by APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby, from the book of Psalms and Chaplain (Maj.) Damon Onellion, the 61st Ordnance Brigade, from the book of Timothy.

Lt. Col. Daniel Rusin with the U.S. Army Research Laboratories recited the Prayer for the Nation, and Chaplain (Maj.) Chip Fields, U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools, recited the Prayer for the Armed Forces.

Troop Ministry Chaplain (Maj.) Fred MacLean introduced Nadeau, saying that when they met two years ago, he could tell that the major general was comfortable with his new position.

"This wasn't the arrogance I was sensing, but an atmosphere of calm, self assurance and confidence that usually only comes with those who are truly humble men in leadership positions," MacLean said. "He speaks with intelligence and from his heart."

Nadeau read the history of the National Prayer Luncheon, mentioning that it was designed to be a "vital beginning of what happens privately, and in small leadership groups on a regular basis among all citizens, military and civilians."

He said the history shows that the goal is to strengthen "the fabric of [Soldiers'] lives, the qualities and leadership and hope for peace and security in the nation."

Nadeau talked about how religion shaped See PRAYER, page 7

ASMIS-2 reaches across DoD

KELLY WIDENER

U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

A tool used by Soldiers to assess the risk of driving their privately owned vehicles on trips is now the same tool that Airman, Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen will use beginning early March.

Formally adopted across the Department of Defense, the tool known to Soldiers as ASMIS-2 officially becomes TRiPS, or Travel Risk Planning System.

The tool was adopted because of its ability to give users a comprehensive risk assessment based on their travel plans and recommending certain actions to help lower risks.

"ASMIS-2's greatest value has always been the one-onone interaction and dialogue it promotes between the supervisor and subordinate," said the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center Sgt. Maj., David Griffith. "The specific questions asked about an upcoming trip allow supervisors and Soldiers to engage and help identify potential faults in driving plans and help provide a name change. The tool offers other alternatives."

The online tool was adopted last year by the Navy,

Marines, Coast Guard and recently this year by the Air Force. Since its implementation in the Army, more than 1,783,000 assessments have been completed by Soldiers, with six fatalities occurring during an assessed trip. These statistics show that those using the tool may be less likely to be involved in fatal mishaps. TRiPS is expected to continue with the same results across all service branches.

"Since the release of TRiPS, 29,061 Sailors have registered for accounts and 15,452 risk assessments have been completed," said Capt. Bill Glenn, director of Shore Safety at the Naval Safety Center. "To date, no Navy personnel who have been traveling on a risk assessment have been involved in a fatal motor vehicle accident."

While elements of ASMIS-2 remain the same – such as inputting information like the type of vehicle being driven, age, start and end points, expected sleep before traveling, seat belt use and more - TRiPS offers more than just additional features specifically for supervisors. One of the new

See TRIPS, page 7



Capt. John Govan, a returning Soldier from Iraq, is welcomed by his three girls, Annie in front, Avery, center, and Gracie at a welcome home ceremony Feb. 20 sponsored by the Family Readiness Group, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade.

FRG welcomes home returning Soldiers

ANDRICKA THOMAS

A room filled with family and friends of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade burst into applause Feb. 20 to welcome home five of their returning Soldiers from abroad.

The Family Readiness Group gathered to celebrate the safe return of its Soldiers.

The sacrifice and service Soldiers and their family members have made during the year they spent away from home was recognized and appreciated.

'We wanted our Soldiers to know we appreciate their hard work and that we think about them when they are gone," said Connie Slater, HHC, 61st Ordnance Brigade FRG leader.

Slater said during her year and a half of service as FRG leader, returning Soldiers have not been formally welcomed back because of the nature of the deployments. The U.S. Army Ordnance Center our dedicated members who respond to the and Schools deploys individuals rather than needs of our Soldiers and families, even entire units making it hard to plan a big welcome home ceremony, said Slater.

"We want them to know someone is taking home ceremonies."

care of them and their families in their absence. FRG is a place where families can get updates on their Soldiers and serve as a support base. This welcome home ceremony is part of that support base," Slater said.

Col. Bobby Towery, commander, 61st Ordnance Brigade, presented Soldiers with a brigade coin and a formal thank you for their service abroad.

"Each of the Soldiers standing before you volunteered to deploy, and for that we thank you," said Towery.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Paul Algarin who just returned from Baghdad, landed just hours before the welcome home ceremony. He said he was not expecting such a reception, but appreciated the warm welcome.

"It's nice to be remembered," Algarin said. "It's good to have that closure," said Shelly Govan, military spouse. Her husband, Capt. John Govan, returned Dec. 27, 2006.

"FRG's success can been attributed to when given short notice," Slater said. "We are looking forward to having more welcome

Former APG employee actively volunteers at post chapel

HEATHER TASSMER

Volunteering takes time and energy, but a former Aberdeen Proving Ground employee doesn't hesitate to give either one to help the main Post Chapel.

Sandy Nook, who retired from the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center in 2000, has been committed to volunteering her time at the chapel for the last 25 years.

"Being involved in the church is just how my parents raised me," she said. "The church is like a family and you become involved because you love everybody."

Her main focus has been sharing her talent of singing. She has been a member of the choir ever since she started attending the chapel. Her passion for music has also led to singing at

Top of the Bay functions and other events around APG.

She said she has been singing ever since she was a child.

"It feels good to praise God while I'm singing," she said. "He allowed me to have that gift so I need to return it to him."

She said she enjoys both old hymns and new praise songs.

"The old hymns are more comforting," Nook said. "The new praise songs make you feel like your spirit is soaring when you sing them."

After Nook retired she became involved in Protestant Women of the Chapel. She serves as treasurer for the group and the Protestant congregation. Nook said her "excellent training" in the government as a management analyst helped prepare her for her treasurer positions.

"The ladies [of the PWOC] are a wonderful group," Nook said. "I like to share with them and be a mentor. I also love all their little children because they are fun to be around and help prepare me to be a grandmother."

Members of the PWOC said they appreciate Nook's contributions to the group.

"Sandy is a faithful, steadfast woman," PWOC secretary Marcia Larsen said. "She is a mentor and a friend."

"Her door is always open and her e-mail is always available in case we need her help," said former PWOC president Pamela Poore.

In addition, Nook said she and her husband, Jerry, help with the pot luck dinners, decorate the chapel for Christmas and per-

form grounds maintenance. Troop Chaplain (Maj.) Fred MacLean ex-



Photo by LAURA ALLEN, PWOC

Sandy Nook, an Aberdeen Proving Ground retiree, scrapbooks during a Protestant Women of the Chapel meeting. Nook is a long-time member and volunteer of the chapel.

pressed gratitude for the couple's help with various tasks.

"They have mowed grass in the summer heat and maintained our snow blowers in a constant state of readiness during the winter storms," MacLean said. "Sandy has kept up with the budget not just for the Main Post Protestant congregation but the South Post and Gospel congregations as well. Jerry and Sandy bring with them decades of government experience and expertise and lead outreach to the Soldiers, especially the trainees."

Sandy reiterated how important volunteering is and explained that it is not only for retirees.

"I know when you're working it is hard to find time, but there is always something to do somewhere like helping out the church, Boy Scouts, parks and recreation and other places," she said. "Volunteerism is satisfying and it makes you feel like you are involved in the community.'

Protestant Women of the Chapel

The Protestant Women of the Chapel invite on or off-post women of any faith to attend their weekly meetings. The meetings are Thursdays from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m. The group holds Bible study, makes crafts and engages in many other activities.

For more information, contact Cameron Toman, PWOC president, 410-420-0853.

Agencies recognize Office Eagle associate of the year

HEATHER TASSMER

Employees from Office Eagle, Blind Industries and Services of Maryland, Associated Retarded Citizens and the Harford County Public School system gathered to recognize the Office Eagle/ BISM Associate of the Year at the APG North store location Feb. 20.

In addition to receiving an Associate of the Year certificate, Nicole DiSeta was nominated to represent BISM at the National Industries of the Blind fall conference where she will compete against other national candidates for the Peter J. Salmon Service Employee of the Year Award.

Salmon was the founder of the NIB who started programs that integrated blind people into the workforce and public schools.

"I am happy to be the Office Eagle Associate of the year and nominated for the conference," DiSeta said.

BISM president Fred Puente said that DiSeta started working for the Office Eagle Base Supply Center at APG in October 1999 through a workstudy program while attending Fallston High School. After receiving a certificate from FHS in 2001, she attended the Future Link Program at Harford County Community College for two years. (The program helps students with disabilities transition after high school.)

Her willingness and ability led to the responsibilities of replenishing

inventory, labeling products and providing customer service, Puente said. She also trains other employees.

Through a partnership with ARC, DiSeta has learned how to use store cash registers, he said.

The cash registers have an audio function that allows DiSeta to hear the numbers. She can also enlarge the numbers on the screen so she can see them.

"Nicole was nominated because of her approach and commitment to her work," Puente said. "She continually wants to learn more."

He said this nomination "isn't easily accomplished" and that she was chosen out of 400 BISM members.

Puente also praised Barry Councill, APG North Office Eagle manager, for his "invaluable" guidance.

"He taught Nicole not only that it is okay to be blind but it's okay to make mistakes and learn from them," Puente said.

DiSeta's family and coworkers said they were proud of her work and achievement.

"The honor is exceptionally wonderful," said Louisa, DiSeta's mother. "This achievement will help her to recognize the work field and understand it more."

Jackie Arceo, the ARC employment specialist who helped teach DiSeta to use the cash register said, "With the help of her parents, she has become a great worker and she never gives up."

Councill echoed Arceo's comment

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Nicole DiSeta, Office Eagle and Blind Industries Associate of the Year, right, prepares to check out Directorate of Installation Operations food service office employee Ernest Green's items at the APG North location.

and said, "Nicole does a great job and always gives one hundred percent of every task that we ask of her."

DiSeta was born in 1983 and diagnosed with cerebral palsy. Her vision problems started at 8-months-old with a lazy crossed-eye that was later diagnosed with an optic nerve hypoplasia (defective or incomplete development of the eye).

DiSeta was diagnosed with Joubert

syndrome when she was 21. She is currently in the Harford County School system to earn a General Education Degree and Sylvan Learning Center in Bel Air for additional training. Office Eagle

Office Eagle, a division of BISM, sells thousands of SKILCRAFT items or products made by the blind. The store employs blind and dis-

abled workers from the local area and

throughout Maryland in support of the JWOD Act of 1971. **BISM**

BISM is an agency that provides "innovative rehabilitation services, training and stable employment opportunities to the blind or visually impaired," according to BISM's Web site, http://bism.org. Their facilities are in Maryland, Delaware, the District of Columbia and Kentucky.

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A healthy mouth equals a healthy body

Academy of General Dentistry

The link between periodontal disease, cardiovascular disease and other health conditions has been the topic of debate recently, with several studies backing both arguments for and against the link. Because the mouth is a pathway to the body, the evidence strongly supports that there is a link between gum disease and heart disease, according to the Academy of General Dentistry, an organization of general dentists dedicated to continuing education.

"There definitely seems to be a direct link to periodontal disease and heart disease," said Dr. William Chase, an academy spokesperson. "We will know more about this link as Generation-X grows older and more studies are done on the topic."

Periodontal disease begins with gingivitis, characterized by swollen gums that easily bleed. Without treatment the condi-



tion progresses to periodontitis, the inflammation of the tissues supporting the teeth.

The theory is that bacteria present in infected gums can come loose and travel throughout the body. No research has shown how the bacteria are able to invade but it is suggested that tasks such as brushing, flossing or even chewing can do the trick.

"Periodontal disease is considered a risk factor for cardiovascular disease along with smoking, high cholesterol and hypertension," Chase said.

ously," Mike said.

"This link means that patients should visit a dentist regularly so that the disease or any other condition can be diagnosed and treated early."

Currently, almost one-half of Americans don't visit the dentist regularly. The link between poor oral health and diseases that can occur in the body reinforce the idea that the mouth is a window to overall health.

"Neglecting your oral health can affect your overall health," Chase said. "Pregnancy, dia-

ic Soldiers, an African-American and Soldiers of various religious backgrounds. "I hope what the public takes away from this is [that] we are Soldiers who take our job and our training seri-

Hester asked that people not forget the Soldiers who are fighting every day for the freedoms that many Americans take for granted in Iraq and Afghanistan, and offered advice to young women who are thinking of enlisting in the military.

"If you have a goal or a dream, you can do it," she said, noting that there are a few limitations for female Soldiers. "If your heart is set on it, don't let anything stand in your way."

The U.S. Army Women's Museum tells the story of women's contributions to the Army from the colonial period to the present. The museum serves as the central repository for historical material pertaining to women in the Army, including thousands of artifacts, photos and oral history. It is the only museum in the world dedicated to Army women.

betes, heart disease and poor nutrition, all have oral manifestations."

He suggests regular visits flossing, limiting intake of physician and dentist.

home oral health regimen that rinses that destroy bacteria and includes brushing twice daily, communicating with the family

to the dentist along with an at- foods that cause decay, mouth

Museum

From front page

according to her Silver Star citation.

For their actions, every member of the squad was honored for heroism in combat. The awards included three Bronze Stars with the Valor device, three Army Commendation Medals with the Valor device and four Purple Hearts.

"I don't want to overshadow everyone's actions of that day," Hester said after the unveiling. "If it wasn't for these guys, I wouldn't be here today and this wouldn't be happening," she said of her fellow Raven 42 squad members.

During the brief ceremony, Sgt. Jason Mike, who also received the Silver Star, said he was proud that the Army has a women's museum and was honoring Hester and Pullen.

"This shows that America truly is a melting pot," he said, noting that in addition to two women, the squad also comprised two Hispan-

HERD SEINCE

Science & Math Academy achieves fusion of fun, education



Photo by NATHANIEL SLOAN

Sarah Farley's interest is sparked as the junior learns about electric currents via a Van de Graff generator.

Story by
EDRIC THOMPSON

Glowing pickles? A Mentos-powered soda fountain? Lightning in a microwave? Uh-oh, sounds like someone isn't watching the kids. Actually, they're being closely watched, and graded, by the very teachers who have cooked up these unusual assignments.

Located on the third floor of Aberdeen High School, the Science & Math Academy is a Harford County Public Schools magnet program specializing in math, science and technology. Throughout the four-year program, students learn the skills and technology needed to work in the fields of engineering and research.

"Our mission is to provide an accelerated and challenging program that focuses on laboratory and research experiences," said Donna Clem, coordinator. "We want our students to be able to set up their own labs and analyze the data they collect, so in addition to operating scientific equipment, we teach them how to completely utilize calculators, palm pilots and software such as Excel Spread Sheet."

Clem is quick to point out that while science and math are the focus, students are provided a well-rounded curriculum.

"We have a full complement of coursework, including classes in English and history," Clem said. "We're part of Aberdeen High School, so for fine arts, foreign languages, physical education and other electives, students leave the third floor and become part of the general population of AHS."

In addition to the "regular" curriculum of all honors classes, SMA students can take electives such as astrophysics, organic chemistry, biotechnology, pre-engineering and robotics.

"We push these kids pretty hard, and we expect a lot from them, but they're great kids who are capable of doing the work," Clem said.

"A lot of the advanced placement classes are pretty much college-level," junior Adam Flores said. "If you want to go to college or have a nice career, come here. It's very hard, but it's fun."

One reason for this is that SMA teachers are encouraged to be creative when helping design the curriculum.

"We look for outside-the-box thinkers who are willing to work hard and continue to learn," Clem said.

As a result, students have built small-scale roller coasters and hovercrafts, used magnets to achieve levitation, designed produce-powered clocks and created robots from old video game systems.

The coolest thing Flores said he worked on was the robotics course.

"We built a line-following robot that works based on the contrast between light and dark; it will follow the dark lines on the floor," Flores said.

"We've got excellent teachers who set you up for career experience," sophomore Jimmy Pritts said. "I think they have a stronger feeling of dedication to the program as opposed to the average high school teacher."

"We're a family," Clem said. "Six out of eight courses that students take in their freshman and sophomore years are up here on the third floor, so they interact well with the teachers and each other in class and develop close relationships. Also, we make a concerted effort to have social events for our students, so even though they may live on opposite sides of the county, they can interact with each other outside of school."

Because SMA also wants its students to be able to interact with business professionals and members of the scientific community, for their capstone project, seniors work under the guidance of a mentor.

"The thing that makes us unique from programs like this in other counties and states is our connection with Aberdeen Proving Ground and the use of their expertise," said Dr. Dennis Kirkwood, supervisor of science for Harford County Public Schools.

"With the state-of-the-art facilities and the great scientific community that works there, we know that many of our mentors will come from there, and they'll allow a student to learn more than they normally could in any other high school setting in Harford County," Clem said. "We're hoping that volunteers will meet with students during the second half of their junior year to start discussing the senior projects."

"It's of critical importance for all aspects of the Army that we support and encourage today's youth to get more involved in science and math," said Dr. Sandra K. Young, U.S. Army Research Laboratory branch chief. "These students are the future of the science community and the men and women who serve."

"I would absolutely encourage those at ARL and APG to volunteer as mentors; it's our duty to encourage education and extend experienced helping hands to the next generation," said Stephanie Piranio, ARL research chemist. "It's a huge investment with an immeasurable return."

And it is this idea of investment that inspired the Army Alliance to lobby for the creation of the SMA.

Were it not for their vision and support, Clem said the SMA would not exist.

"They were aware that the United States was falling behind in terms of educating workers in science, technology, engineering

and mathematics," Clem said. "As our students' interest in those areas dwindled, so did the opportunity for a homegrown workforce to support APG. They knew it would be good for the community, good for APG and most important, good for the kids."

Not only did the Army Alliance obtain funding, they worked

closely with local educators, the Science and Technology Board and members of Aberdeen Proving Ground's science community to form the Educational Specifications Committee. Together, they set guidelines for the curriculum, student selection and program implementation.

Stephen C. Clark, director for Business Development, Developmental Test Command, said the Army Alliance approached the APG Science and Technology Board because APG had the technical expertise and facilities necessary to developing future success.

"We've been with the program all along and will continue to be involved because we're committed to the children in the area," Clark said.

"We were grateful to their expertise," Clem said. "This group continues to be an integral part of what we are today and what we'll be in the future."

Those wishing to be future SMA students should be aware of the selection process set in place by the committee. SMA accepts 50 students each year.

Eighth grade students residing in Harford County may obtain application materials from the SMA Web site or their school counselor.

APG families who are new to the area may contact SMA or Eileen Campbell, APG CYS School Liaison, 410-278-2857.

In addition to the application and teacher recommendation forms, students must attach a transcript and write two essays on topics designated by the SMA. Completing geometry is also critical to admission.

"They need to be willing to either take geometry in the eighth grade or complete it in summer school," Clem said. "We had twenty-one students take summer school geometry last year."

The deadline for applying to SMA is the third week of January; however, military families who have transferred to APG after the deadline may still contact SMA about applying. Students are notified of their admission status by the first week of March.

The Novak family chose to stay in Aberdeen instead of moving to Bethesda because their daughter, Maggie, was accepted into SMA.

"It has been a very good program for her," said Maj. Joseph Novak, U.S. Army Veterinary Corps. "She's been challenged through it, and it has helped with her shyness. This allows her to be a mentor to other students, so she's made a lot of friends through it.

"It's definitely an advanced program that requires a lot of work, but we would highly recommend motivated kids to apply for this program," he said.

"Not every student who graduates from this program will go into the fields of math or science," Clem said. "However, I know that being able to solve problems, think logically and use technology will carry students through, no matter what area they end up studying in college or what their career ends up being."

For more information about SMA or mentoring, contact Clem, 410-273-5500 or Donna.clem@hcps.org, or visit www. Scienceandmathacademy.com.



Photos by EDRICTHOMPSON Paul Sweigart, a junior, sprays the flame as classmate Vikesh Patel uses a spectroscope to identify ions in the bunsen burner.



Senior Disha Patel examines biofilms to compare organisms from different aquatic tanks.



Juniors Maggie Novak and Marie Balboa, right, get the ball rolling by testing the roller coaster they

built for their physics class.

High school scholarships offered to military teel

YVONNE JOHNSON APG NEWS

West Nottingham Academy, the nation's oldest boarding school, is offering two-year scholarships, covering all costs, to qualified children and grandchildren from career military or American Foreign Service families.

The scholarships are twoyear commitments to students in their junior and senior years of high school, and covers tuition, boarding, travel, meals, academic materials and other expenses.

In addition, during each academic year, students may apply to the Hallock Scholars Selection Committee for additional support for other expenses such as educational

standard admission application and show why they are uniquely qualified for the West Nottingham Academy experience.

As 15 percent of the student body comes from foreign countries, this is a highly competitive process. Applicants must have achieved no less than a 3.0 cumulative GPA or a "B" average at their previous school. They must have a clean disciplinary record and actively volunteer in their community.

For more information, including application, contact Admissions at West Nottingham Academy, 410-658-9279 or e-mail admissions@wna. org. The academy accepts the Boarding School Common Application, located at **http://**

Applicants must complete a forms.html or the application at http://files.schoolyard. com/wnottingham/PDF/ WNA_Final_App.pdf.

West Nottingham Academy

The oldest boarding school in America, West Nottingham has been a small, residential school for college-bound students since it was founded in 1744.

The Hallock Scholarships were created in 2000 by the Richard B. Hallock Foundation. The scholarships honor the life's work of World War II hero Col. Richard B. Hallock, a 1937 graduate of West Nottingham, and his wife Myriam Johnston Hallock, a longtime American Foreign Service officer. The school's distinguished alumni include Benjamin Rush and Richard Stockton, signers www.schools.com/apply/ of the Declaration of Inde- the battlefield. He was Gen.

pendence; Colonial doctor and politician John Archer for whom the John Archer School was named after, the only public school in Harford County serving students with disabilities; and former Maryland governor Austin L. Crothers. Col. Richard R. Hallock

Class of 1937 1919 - 1999 Richard Hallock was a highly decorated Army hero of World War II and the Korean War who won 27 decorations including the Silver Star, five Bronze Stars, the Legion of

Merit and a Purple Heart. He was a Master Parachutist and the youngest major to serve as a battalion commander in Korea.

Hallock's greatest achievements included those away from Lucius D. Clay's personal aide for intelligence during the Berlin Airlift and throughout the post-World War II reconstruction of Germany. He later led a 10-year, behind-the-scenes battle for the Army to adopt as its standard rifle the M-16, which he believed to be the best weapon for American infantrymen.

After retiring from the Army at the rank of colonel in 1967, Hallock found entrepreneurial success with his Intrec and Quaestor corporations.

He later served Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger as his personal representative to

the Shah of Iran during the Nixon and Ford administrations and he consulted on politicalmilitary affairs, particularly in the Middle East. In his long career in the Pentagon Hallock was renowned for pursuing the interests of America's Soldiers, sometimes in the teeth of vigorous bureaucratic opposition.

Hallock's wife, Myriam Johnston Hallock, Class of 1941 and a former U.S. Information Agency officer, continues the administration of educational endowments today through the Richard R. Hallock Foundation.

Ellis College of NYIT expands military tuition benefits to include veterans, spouses

Ellis College of NYIT, a fully-accredited online college for working adults, has expanded its military tuition discount programs to include both active and retired members of the U.S. armed forces and selected Reserves, and their spouses.

Under the revised program, retired military personnel and their spouses are eligible to receive a 15 percent discount off Ellis College's standard tuition rates. In addition, the school is continuing its existing program of offering a 20 percent tuition discount to active service personnel and their spouses.

A leading provider of career-based education for military personnel, Ellis College is one of the few accredited institutions to offer tuition discounts to both active and retired service members. As such, service members who are eligible for the G.I. Bill or Tuition Assistance often have minimal or no out-of-pocket expenses for their Ellis classes. In addition, Ellis students can receive course credit for applicable military training, enabling them to complete their degree requirements more quickly.

Ellis College's online interface has been designed to provide maximum convenience for service members seeking to advance their military and civilian careers, by providing the anytime, anywhere flexibility of online instruction. Often recognized for excellence, the school's curriculum utilizes "real-world" scenarios in its instruction, enabling students to learn from actual practice and apply new skills almost immediately. In addition, the school features a vast virtual campus and community which allows service members to learn and interact extensively with instructors, classmates and peers, building the valuable networks and relationships that are so essential in both military and civilian life.

"Ellis College understands and values the many contributions - and sacrifices made by the members of the U.S. armed forces and their families," said David Harpool, provost for Ellis College. "We want to make it as easy as possible for these men and women to obtain a prestigious designed to meet the diversified needs of these brave individuals."

About Ellis College of NYIT

Ellis College of NYIT is a regionally accredited online university that has been designed specifically to meet the needs of busy, working professionals. A division of the New York Institute of Technology, the school utilizes a unique, interactive learning platform that provides an animated, lively classroom experience and fosters an extensive online community among students, alumni and faculty.

Ellis College currently offers more than 50 different undergraduate and graduate degrees certificates and specializations, and partners with leading business schools like Stanford, Columbia and the University of Chicago in developing its prestigious MBA curriculum. In addition, Ellis offers a Free Guest Pass program which enables one to preview life as an Ellis student by participating in a variety of educational courses and forums.

For more information, visit www.ellis. **nyit.edu,** or call 1-877-355-4727 (1-312college degree, and our school has been 669-5027 outside the United States).

1ST LT. MICHAEL MOSER

The U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine sponsored an event to commemorate Black History Month Feb. 20.

Retired Army Col. Vandy L. Miller, a veteran of 42 years of federal service (24 on active the Aberdeen Proving Ground South Conference Center, sharing his views and experiences as an African-American military officer and scientist.

Miller, a radiation biologist and health physicist, spent part of his career at CHPPM. He was stationed at Edgewood Arsenal in 1962, the first of two tours at what was then called the U.S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency.

He said he was drawn to the Army in part because he thought the military culture, with comparatively less discrimination than civilian society, would offer him the best chance of advancement. Additionally, he and his wife knew that the Department of Defense schools were desegregated and thus would provide their children with the same educational opportunities as their white contemporaries.

Miller said his early years in service were marked with instances of racial discrimination. He was often treated differently from his white peers, he said. Even as an Army officer, he was forced to ride in segregated city buses while stationed in Texas. When shopping for a new car, he was expected to pay higher prices and interest rates. He was denied service in restaurants and hotel accommodations due to his color.

Despite these setbacks, Miller remained positive.

"I stayed focused," he said of his pursuit of the goal of equality, urging his listeners to do the same.

"Be a power of one," he said. "Change starts in the heart and flows to the soul."

Miller commented that he has seen much progress since he first entered the Army. Returning to Edgewood Arsenal in 1973 to begin his second tour at AEHA, he saw a less divisive racial climate than that which he left 10 years earlier. He cited better race relations within the local community and an increase in the numbers

Black History observes of black military officers as shown through his military

tour of duty. After retirement from the Army in 1978, Miller began an 18-year career as a federal civilian with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. There he rose to the level of the Senior Executive Service.

marks of progress during that

and federal service, Miller continued to serve the African-American community through volunteer service with various organizations. As president of the Washington Metropolitan Association of Black Scientists, an organization with the goal of cultivating interest in sci-Beyond the personal examences, he initiated a scholarship

blacks to explore careers in the sciences.

The CHPPM event opened with the synchronized dance team "Hot Steppahs" from Perryville High School. The 10member team performed at a recent fundraising program for victims of Hurricane Katrina, and is scheduled to perform at an upcoming Philadelphia 76ers

Community Notes

FRIDAY MARCH 2 **BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo sponsored by the Harford Ballet Company will be held at St. Mary Magdalen Mission Center, 1716 Churchville Rd., Bel Air. Doors open at 6 p.m.; games begin at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 for 20 games.

Filled baskets, door prizes, raffles and concessions will be available.

This is a non-profit agency. For tickets, call 410-877-3281 company.org.

SATURDAY MARCH 3 **INDOOR FLEA MARKET**

American Legion Post 17, located on 415 Edgewood Road, Edgewood, will sponsor an indoor Flea Market, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Food will be available.

PRAYER BREAKFAST

The women of St. James A.M.E. Church, 615 Green

or visit www.harfordballet- Street, Havre de Grace, will host a prayer breakfast at 9 a.m. The guest speaker will be Rebecca Turner of Robinson A.M.E. Church, Grasonville, Md.

> A "Linen Rally" will be held immediately after the prayer breakfast. This event will benefit the Church's Annual Women's Day Program scheduled for March 25.

> For more information, call 410-939-2267.

BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit cancer aid and research will be held at the VFW Post 8185, Route 222, Port Deposit. Doors open at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon. Tickets cost \$15 per person and include a three card set of 20 and lunch. Extra packs cost \$5 each. This is a non-smoking event.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Pat Job at 410-658-5628 or 410-378-0096.

WEDNESDAY THRU THURSDAY **MARCH 7THRU 8**

VETERANS NEEDED

FOR HISTORY PROJECT

Documentary filmmaker Larry Cappetto, the creator of the "Lest They Be Forgotten" series, is returning to the area to interview local veterans of Vietnam, Korea, the Gulf War and the War on Terror in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Cappetto will be conducting personal interviews in the McComas Funeral Home, at the corner of Route 7 and Abingdon Road in Abingdon, March 7 to 8.

Veterans or active duty service members who served in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard or Reserves during these conflicts who are interested in sharing their experiences on film should contact Cappetto to schedule an appointment. He can be reached by e-mail at larry@veteranshistory.org or call 970-254-9262.

For more information, visit the "Lest They Be Forgotten" Web site, http://www.veteranshistory.org.

SATURDAY

MARCH 10 **MEMORIES OF ELVIS SHOW**

The American Legion Auxiliary Edgewood Service Unit 17 will sponsor Michael Hoover's "Memories of Elvis" show (for true Elvis fans) 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the American Legion Edgewood Service Post 17, 415 Edgewood Road. Cost is \$25 per person. Tickets will be sold at the door.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Carol Carden, 443-506-6561.

SATURDAY MARCH 17 BASKET BINGO

Basket Bingo to benefit **USNTC** Bainbridge Historical Association will be held at VFW Post 8185, Route 222, Port Deposit. Doors open at 6 p.m.; Bingo begins at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 person for all paper cards. Food, beverage, baked goods, door prizes and raffles will be available. No smoking is allowed.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338 or Carolyn Spencer, 410-378-3219.

A NIGHT AT THE **RACES**

American Legion Susquehanna Post 135, located on 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, will hold a \$1,000 Draw Down and Night at the Races. All proceeds will benefit the Detachment Commander's Project Fisher House Foundation.

Tickets cost \$35 each and admit two for dinner, draft beer, soda and limited open bar. Events include horse races, \$1,000 draw down, wheels of fortune, Chinese and silent auctions and a cake wheel.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Tom Deal, 410-642-2561, Emory Thompson, 410-642-6718 or Ed Steininger, 410-939-2293.

(Editors Note: More calendar events can be seen at www. apgnews.apg.army.mil under Community Notes.)

Post **SHORTS**

This self-help facility has five hydraulic lift bays, nine general flat bays, three body shop bays, a tire change station and a paint room bay. Qualified instructors are available for technical assistance. Qualification cards are accepted from other military installations or see Auto Craft staff for an APG card.

For more information, call 410-278-2884/5178.

Chapter 70 WACVA meets Saturday

Maryland Freestate Chapter 70 of the Women's Army Corps Veterans Association will meet in the Aberdeen Senior Center 11 a.m., March 3. Refreshments will be served and lunch follows for those interested.

Membership in WACVA is open to women who have served or are serving in the Army (active, Reserve and National Guard); and to all other as affiliate members.

For more information, call 410-939-1429: visit the Web site, www.wacveteranschapter70.org, or write WAC Chapter 70, P.O. Box 423, Aberdeen, MD 21001.

American Sign Language Class

An American Sign Language Class will be held 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., March 6 through May 22, on Tuesdays, building E-1570, APG South Conference room (basement level next to the former library).

Goals include learning the alphabet, numbers, finger spelling, everyday

terminology, nouns, greetings, become aware of what is accepted in deaf culture as opposed to hearing culture and more. The class is offered for beginners and more advanced students. Students may submit form DD1556 if credit is desired.

Ten sessions must be completed in order to receive credit.

For more information or to register, call BethAnn Cameron, 410-436-7175.

MCSC accepting welfare requests

The APG Military and Civilian Spouses' Club is currently accepting requests for welfare funds.

Throughout the year, the club raises funds through apple pie sales, basket bingos and miscellaneous other events, to provide welfare monies to local schools, organizations, non-profit agencies, etc., along with scholarships.

In order to be considered for the welfare funds (which will be distributed monthly), a letter stating the requested amount and what the funds are needed for must be received by April 30. Requests should be mailed to MCSC-Welfare Chairperson, 2806-A McCloskey Road, APG, MD 21005.

For more information, call Jeni Ford, 410/273-6626.

Annual FWP training conference

The APG Federal Women's Program will sponsor its 17th annual Training Conference in observance of Women's History Month 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 7, at the EA Conference Center, building E-4810.

This year's theme is "Gen-

erations of Women Moving History Forward." The conference is open to all active duty military and civilian employees of Aberdeen Proving Ground. Contractors may attend at the discretion of their supervisors.

Attendees with special needs must make this known when registering.

Registration packets can be picked up 7 to 8 a.m., in building E-4811, prior to attending the opening ceremony and the morning session. For those who will only attend the afternoon sessions, pick up registration packets 12:15 to 12:50 p.m.

For more information, call Diane Siler, 410-436-2681, Linda Patrick, 410-436-1023, Kathleen Praesent, 410-278-1137 or Sheryl Coleman, 410-278-5964.

(Editors Note: More shorts can be seen at www.apgnews.apg. army.mil under Shorts.)

Movies

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3.50, CHILDREN \$1.75 **Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard** To verify listing, call 410-272-9008, or visit www.aafes.com and click on "Movie Listing."

DREAMGIRLS

Fffie White

Friday, March 2, 7 p.m. Starring: Eddie Murphy, Beyonce Knowles, Jennifer Hudson,

Deena Jones

Lorrell Robinson, three friends from Chicago, are a promising singing trio called The Dreamettes. Accompanied by their songwriter C.C. White (Effie's brother), they travel to New York to compete in a talent show at the Apollo Theatre. Although the girls lose this first bid for fame, their talent attracts an ambitious manager by the name of Curtis Taylor, Jr., who uses unscrupulous tactics to move the girls from backup singers of superstar James "Thunder" Early (Murphy) to superstars of their own. (Rated PG-13)

SMOKIN' ACES (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, March 3, 7 p.m. Starring: Ben Affleck, Jeremy Piven, Jason Bateman Mob boss Primo Sparazza has taken out a hefty contract on Buddy "Aces" Israel (Piven) - a sleazy magi-

cian who has agreed to turn state's evidence against the Vegas mob. When word of the price on Aces' head spreads into the community of ex-cons and cons-tobe, bounty hunters, thugsfor-hire, deadly vixens and double-crossing mobsters join in the hunt. (Rated R)

THE QUEEN

Saturday, March 3, 9 p.m. Starring: Helen Mirren, Michael Sheen

A revealing, witty portrait of the British royal family in crisis immediately following the death of Princess Diana. The setting for this fictional account of real events is no less than the private chambers of the Royal Family and the British government in the wake of the sudden death of Princess Diana in August of 1997. In the immediate aftermath of the Princess' passing, the tightly contained, tradition-bound world of the Queen of England clashes with the slick modernity of the country's brand new, image-conscious Prime Minister, Tony Blair. (Rated PG-13)

Trips

From front page

features allows supervisors to view the TRiPS activity of their subordinates two levels down, which offers more opportunity for leadership engagement and awareness.

"TRiPS will continue to provide users with risk awareness features such as the

mapping feature," Griffith said. "However, the new features make this positive and proven tool even more valuable in the fight against POV fatalities of not only our Soldiers, but all DOD service members and civilians."

to notice the name change of ASMIS-2 to TRiPS on the U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center's Web site, https://crc. army.mil this month.



accessible to children.

Pests

From front page

In the first phase of the evaluation, particular emphasis was placed on roles and responsibilities, communication, policy plans and documents, contractor reports for previous years, pest activity logs and pesticide application for facilities and grounds, Futch said.

The second phase included the site visit and evaluation. A physical walk-through was conducted and an assessment of represented buildings was evaluated. All facility areas were inspected highlighting pest entry.

Abdul Sheikh, the APG entomologist, started the IPM program in 1988. In the 1970s and 1980s thousands of pounds of pesticides were applied annually. More than 20 pest controllers were on staff and spraying pesticide throughout the installation, according to Sheikh.

"Today, pesticide use is a few hundreds pounds per year, primarily herbicides," he said. "No spray applications of pesticides have been made in the CDCs or CYCs in 19 years, although the work orders generated for pest

complaints have increased."

All pesticide inventories are maintained and protected in the pest management shop offsite or on vehicles under lock and key. Any pesticide mixing is done outside in the pesticide mixing area or in a secure mixing room in building 5110. The pesticide storage facility includes two units: one for insecticides and rodenticides and a second for herbicides.

Use of chemical pesticides in CDCs and CYSs shall be done only as a last resort. If pesticides must be used they will



stresses prevention and the use children and shall be applied of the least toxic options availonly when children are not able to reduce both pests and present. Pesticides will not be pesticide risks. The IPM proused in children's outdoor play gram in CDCs and CYSs is areas. The use of non-chemimanaged by the APG Garrison cal means for pest control is installation pest management strongly encouraged in areas coordinator and is geared to limit risks of pesticide exposure to school age children. The Army's approach



Photos by DR. TOM GREEN

Fixing door seals and sweeps in all buildings will save energy as well as keep pests out. Tightening loose window screens will keep out ants and occasional invaders such as spiders, earwigs, crickets, etc.

Prayer

From front page

his life as a child, leader and decision-maker.

Nadeau said he went to church every Sunday with his family while he was growing up.

"Going to church wasn't about what happened in that place at that time or whether you were paying attention. It's what you did with [the lessons that were taught there]," Nadeau said.

He said his family applied the values they learned in church to their household.

"What I saw in my household was that nobody was better than anybody else, and you never passed up an opportunity to help somebody else," he said.

He also discussed his time as a platoon leader in Germany as a leader of young Soldiers. Their respect wasn't just because they were lower on the rank structure, he said. He said that the platoon worked as a team and learned from each other.

"What they saw was that there was a desire to be part of a team and not just the officer who disappears when it rains and gets muddy," he said. "When you earn that respect and trust, they train you to be better."

He applied this belief with religion to see others equally no matter who they are.

Nadeau also talked about news stories of Soldiers making decisions "out of vengeance" in Iraq.

"You just saw your friend killed or seriously wounded and you decide you know who it is and you have the opportunity and cross the line out of emotion," Nadeau said.

Training can cause the Soldier not to make the wrong decision, but in that split second, the decision is made on who that person is and what his or her religious beliefs are, Nadeau said.

In closing, he said he believed that what makes people good-hearted is what they do when no one is watching.

The program also featured patriotic songs played by the 389th Band (AMC's Own). The audience sang along to "America the Beautiful" and "God Bless America."

Jagielski gave the luncheon's benediction. MacLean thanked those who helped organize the luncheon, including Irby who distributed tickets and Sgt. 1st Class Luis Martinez, 61st Ordnance Brigade unit ministry team. He said Martinez took on many responsibilities of the garrison chaplain assistant noncommissioned officer in charge since she could not attend. MacLean also thanked the Top of the Bay staff and the 389th Band (AMC's Own).

"Something that we tried to emphasize more of this year was for unit leaders to actually bring and sit with their own Soldiers," MacLean said. "Many of them brought their own table top unit insignias to show off unit pride. It is a great thing for leaders to show their spiritual side as models of a totally different dimension of leadership."

Several attendees said they

enjoyed the keynote speech. "It was pretty motivating," said Staff Sgt. Kevin Cox, 16th Ordnance Battalion. "[The speech] made me think about the decisions Soldiers are going to make because I'm going to be deployed soon."

Spc. Tina Bruce, 16th Ordnance Battalion, said that the speech was "very informative" and she learned "a lot of people take things for granted."

MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities

PIE changes name to Family Information Network

The Exceptional Family Member Program support group Family Information Network, or FIN, will replace the Parent Information Exchange, or PIE. The FIN will meet 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., every second Wednesday during winter months through April in building 2754 first floor conference room.

For more information, call 410-278-2420.

Youth baseball and teeball

Register early for youth baseball and Teeball. Teams and space is limited. For baseball, the cost is \$35 for youths ages 5 to 15 (age as of April 30, 2007) and \$35 for teeball, ages 5 to 6. Practice begins the week of April 2. Games are held during the week. Parents interested in coaching please call Youth Sports at 410-306-2297.

Girls' softball

Register for softball for girls ages 7 to 18 (age as of Jan. 1, 2007). The cost is \$45 per child. Practice begins the third

Amateur Boxing this Saturday

MWR will host Amateur Boxing Night, 6 p.m., March 3 at Hoyle Gymnasium, 143rd vs. 16th. Doors open 5 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 for active duty military, \$10 for civilians and \$20 for front row seating. Admission is free for children six years of age and vounger.

Purchase tickets at MWR Leisure Travel and Tickets, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or at Hoyle Gym and Fitness Center, building E-4210, or call 410-436-7134.

week of March and games start in mid-April. Teams play in the Eastern Harford County league. For more information call 410-306-2297.

Fast Pitch Clinic for Girls Softball

A Pitching Clinic for girls ages 8 through 14 will be held 6 to 8 p.m., March 6 and 13, at Aberdeen Youth Center, building 2522. The clinic will emphasize the proper fast pitch mechanics, the correct way to warm up, how to improve arm speed and control and tips for pitchers to practice on their own.

Registration fee costs \$5. Register through Feb. 28 during the spring sports registration period at Central Registration, building 2752 Rodman Road.

For appointments after 10:30 a.m., call 410-278-7571. Walk-in registration will be held 7:30 to 10:30 a.m., Monday through Friday.

Basic plumbing class

This course will teach participants how to make plumbing repairs at their home or business, including how to repair pipes and stop leaks, what steps to take in emergency situations and when to look for warning signs and why.

Classes are for adults ages 18 and older and will be held 6 to 7 p.m., Wednesdays, through Feb. 28, in the Aberdeen Recreation Center, building 3326.

SKIES Unlimited

For more information and registration for all SKIES Unlimited programs, call Central Registration. An additional \$18 Central Registration Fee will apply if not already enrolled in the Child and Youth Services Program.

For more information or to make an appointment to register, call 410-278-7479/7571.

and closed on Friday.

410-278-9725.

The APG North Fitness Center in

building 320 new hours are Monday

through Thursday, 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, call

SKIESUNlimited offers gymnastics program

Gymnastics classes will be held March 17 through May 5 on Saturdays (no class on March 31 or April 14). Class groups include ages 2 and onehalf to 4 years, 9 to 10 a.m.; ages 5 to 7 years, 10 to 11 a.m.; and ages 8 to 18 years, 11 a.m. to noon.

Youths not already enrolled in the child and Youth Services Program will pay an additional \$18 registration fee. To make an appointment to register, call 410-278-7479/7571.

For more information, call 410-278-4589.

Child and Youth Services

There are immediate fullday openings for 3- and 4-year-olds at the APG North Child Development Center. All active duty military and activated reservists, DoD civilians and contractors assigned to

APG are eligible for services. The center is open daily, 6:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For more information, call Central Registration at 410-278-7571.

MWR Registration, Tickets and Leisure Travel is located in building 3326. They may be contacted at 410-278-4011/4907, by e-mail at mwr_registration@apg. army.mil or on the Web site, www.apgmwr.com.

Tour Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty

Join MWR for a tour of Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty, April 7. Cost of the trip is \$75 per person and includes roundtrip motorcoach transportation, ferry ride and admission into the Statue of Liberty. On the way back there will be a stop at Mastoris Restaurant in Bordentown, N.J. for dinner. The bus will depart 8 a.m. and return 9 p.m. Last day for registration is March 23.

For more information or to register, call or stop by the MWR Leisure Travel Office, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail mwr_registration@apg. army.mil.

Tickets available to see the Harlem Globetrotters

Tickets to the 2007 Harlem Globetrotters Blue Tour are on sale at MWR.

March 4: 1 and 6 p.m. at the Towson Center, Towson. Tickets for the 1 p.m. show cost \$17.50 and \$14.25 for the 6 p.m. show. March 6: 7 p.m. at the Bob

Carpenter Center, Newark, Del. Tickets cost \$16.50. March 11: 1 and 6 p.m. at

the Wachovia Center, Philadelphia. Tickets for both shows cost \$16.50

March 17: 1 p.m. at the Verizon Center, Washington, D.C. Tickets cost \$13.25.

Sports activities available to youths

Youth flag football cheerleading

Youths ages 6 to 14 (age as of April 1, 2007) can sign up for flag football. Cost is \$45 per child; shoes and socks are not included. Practice begins the week of April 2 and will be held on weekdays after 5:30 p.m.

Start Smart basketball

This program is for boys and girls ages 3 to 5 who want to play basketball and coached by their mom or dad. Start Smart Basketball will be held Mondays, March 12 through April 16. Parent participation is required. Cost is \$40 per child. Each child will receive a T-shirt, basketball and award.

Youth flag football

Boys and girls, ages 6 to 8, 9 to 11 and 12 to 410-306-2297.

14 (age as of April 1, 2007) can sign up. Flag football practices begin the week of April 2, games begin May 5. Games will be held every Saturday at APG North and South Youth Centers. The fee is \$45 for the season. Coaches and referees are needed to make the program a success.

For more information, call Youth Sports

Golf, tennis programs

Registration begins May 1 for the summer Junior Golf and Tennis programs. Boys and girls ages 7 through 17 can register. Golf and tennis will be held in APG North and South and begins the week of June 18.

For more information or to register, call

St. Patrick's Day Tourney

4794/9452.

Ruggles Golf course will hold a St Patrick's Day Tournament, March 17, with a 9 a.m. scramble. Play your own team - play your own game and have a chance to win a \$1,000,000 Pot of Gold.

All tournament participants placing on close to pin holes will participate in the end of tournament shoot out. The winner will then attempt a hole in one for the Pot of Gold. Participants must be registered by March 15 at Ruggles Pro Shop, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Cost is \$15 for annual patrons and \$28 for all others. Optional 18-hole cart is available at \$13 per rider. Refreshments and prizes follow the Shoot Out Contest. For more information, call 410-278-



School age/middle school services summer program

The Aberdeen North and South Summer North Youth Services. Program will run for nine weeks, June 18 through Aug. 17, Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The program is open to all qualifying children who have completed first through eighth grades. Parents can sign up for the weeks that fit their schedule.

Tuition fees are based on total family income.

Waiting list applications may be picked up daily begining 7:30 a.m., Feb. 20 at the APG South Youth Services, building E-1902, the Outreach Services building 2752 or faxed to 410-278-4658. Applications will not be distributed or accepted at the APG

Registration will be held Saturday, April 21, at the APG South Youth Services and Saturday, April 28, at the APG North Youth Services for all sponsors who have been offered openings by the Central Registration office. Registration packets, an up-to-date physical and family income information must be completed prior to the registration appointment.

A \$20 non-refundable deposit is required per child at the time of registration for each week a parent selects.

For questions or further information, call the Outreach Services Office, 410-278-7571

CWF event

The Civilian Welfare Fund will sponsor a trip to Myrtle Beach, April 9 through 13. The price per person based on single occupancy is \$589; cost for double-occupancy is \$489; triple-occupancy costs \$469; and quad-occupancy costs \$459. Package includes motor coach transportation, lodging at the Sea Mist Resort, a guided tour of historic Charleston, Barefoot Landing, a visit to Broadway at the Beach, a performance at the Carolina Opry, four breakfasts, four dinners, plus all gratuities. Reservations will be accepted until all

Fitness Center hours change

For more information or for reservations, call Angela Keithley, 410-278-4603/4771.

SCHOOL LIAISON

Emergency Contact Cards available

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Emergency Contact Information cards are would require the child to be taken to the attend Roye Williams or Edgewood Elemen- ing area. A copy should be placed in every tary schools. This information should be kept child's backpack. Bright yellow emergency event that there is an extreme emergency that APG North.

available for children that live on base and Youth Services building instead of their housin every child's backpack. This information cards will also be available at the Child and would only be used to contact parents in the Youth Services building, 2752 Rodman Road,

(Place in front pocket of child's backpack) Child's Name Parent's/Guardian's Name _____ Address _____ Home #: ______ Name: _____ Cell:#: _____ Name: _____ Comments/Special Needs: _____

For more information on any APG school related information, contact Eileen Campbell, 410-278-2857 or eileen.campbell@apg.army.mil.

PG Dawning of a new era in APG's 90-year history

90th Anniversary Celebration Calendar of Events

(All dates are subject to change and weather conditions.)

March

Day (EEO) • 7, Generations of Women Moving History Forward EA,

- EEO, 410-278-1137 • 20 thru 22, Army Family Action Plan, MWR, 410-278-
- •28, Town Hall meetings, APG South Conference Center, 9
- a.m.; APG North Post Theatre, 2 p.m. •31, Easter Egg Hunt, MWR, 410-278-7572

April

- 14, Ruggles Golf Course holds APG 90th Anniversary Opening Day Golf Scramble, 8:30 a.m., MWR Ruggles Golf Course, 410-278-9452
- •21, Exton Golf Course holds APG 90th Anniversary Open Day Golf Scramble, 8:30 a.m., MWR Exton Golf Course,
- 26, Law Day, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, 410-278-1107

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (EEO)/APG Open Women's History Month & Days of Remembrance - One House/Military Appreciation/ Ordnance Week Activities and Anniversary Balls

- 5, Spring Fest community event, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fire and Emergency Services, 410-306-0533
- 19, 10K Armed Forces Day Run, MWR, 410-278-3812
- TBA Military Appreciation Luncheon (sponsored by the Harford County Chamber of Commerce)
- TBA U.S. Army Soldier Show, MWR 410-278-4402

June

- •2 and 3, Ruggles Senior Club Championship, 9 a.m., age 50 and older, limited to annual, MWR Ruggles Golf Course, 410-278-9452
- 11, Ruggles Super Senior Tournament, age 60 and older, MWR Ruggles Golf Course, 410-278-9452

(Editor's note: This calendar will be updated as necessary. New or changed items will appear in italic bold print.)

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials

Building 2342

Week of Feb. 26

Special #1: Double bowlerburger with cheese, French fries, one cookie and soda for \$7.75.

Special #2: Chicken patty topped with marinara sauce and provolone cheese, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$6.95.

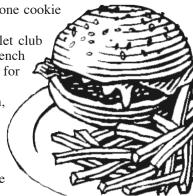
Week of March 5

Special #1: Turkey club sub with bacon and cheese, potato chips, one cookie and soda for \$5.95.

Special #2: Chicken filet club with bacon and cheese, French fries, one cookie and soda for

For more information, call 410-278-4041.

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.



Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/Staff_Judge/index.html

What to do if an IRS notice is received

SANDI WILLIAMS

It's a moment many taxpayers dread - receiving a letter from the IRS — and it's not a refund check. Fortunately, there is no need to panic. Most of these letters can be dealt with simply and painlessly.

Every year, the IRS sends millions of letters and notices to taxpayers for various reasons. The notice received normally covers a very specific issue about an account or tax return.

payment of taxes, additional information or notice of a correction to the account. Each letter and notice offers clear and precise instructions as to how to satisfy the inquiry.

However, if a taxpayer has questions, call the telephone number in the upper right-hand corner of the notice or call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040. Have a copy of the tax return and the correspondence available when calling so the account can be readily accessed.

Most correspondence can

visiting an IRS office, if the instructions in the letter or notice are followed. The taxpayer should review the correspondence and compare it with the information on their return.

If in agreement with the correction, no reply is necessary (unless a payment is due).

If taxpayer disagrees with the correction, it is important to respond as instructed. Write to explain why there is disagreement and include any documents IRS needs to consider, along with the bot-It may be a letter requesting be handled without calling or tom tear-off portion of the 410-278-1583.

notice. Mail the information to the IRS address shown in the upper left-hand corner of the notice. Allow at least 30 days for a response. Be sure to keep copies of any correspondence with personal records.

For more information about IRS notices and bills, see Publication 594, Understanding the Collection Process, available at www.IRS.gov or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676), or contact the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate Client Services Division,

Some Soldiers may receive calls from private debt collectors to settle delinquent federal tax debts

Story by **ERIC FEUSTEL**

The 2004 American Jobs Creation Act authorizes the Internal Revenue Service to hire private collection agencies to collect federal tax debts.

The IRS began to assign delinquent federal tax accounts to private collection agencies in September of 2006. Initially, the debts of 12,500 taxpayers were selected to be processed by private debt collectors. By the end of year 2006, more than 40,000 tax debts were be assigned to private collection agencies.

The IRS has developed its own guidelines for the private agencies, including background checks and mandatory IRSdirected training programs for personnel involved in the collection process. Private agencies are not authorized to take enforcement actions such as filing liens, making levies, or processing property seizures.

In addition, private agencies are not authorized to work on technical issues such as offers in compromise, bankruptcies, hardship issues, or litigation.

The IRS intends to assign private agencies only to cases in which the taxpayer does not dispute liability. The private agencies will contact taxpayers to make payment arrangements.

In the past, scam artists have tried to impersonate IRS personnel by phone, email, or over the internet. The intent of these scam artists is to trick taxpayers into divulging personal and financial information or to convince taxpayers to make payments directly to them.

The IRS anticipates that some scam artists and identity thieves will attempt to use the new IRS private debt collector program to bilk uneducated taxpayers. Savvy taxpayers should be aware of several key steps the IRS has taken to prevent impostors from posing as IRS employees or IRS sponsored debt collectors.

For instance, all taxpayers assigned to participate in the private debt collector program will know they are in the program before they are contacted by a private collection agency. Each participant will get a

letter from the IRS informing them they were selected for the program. The name of the private debt collection agency will be included in the letter.

All participants will also receive a follow-up letter from the private collection agency informing the taxpayer they will be contacted soon regarding back taxes. Also, taxpayers will be directed to write any checks payable to the U.S. Treasury - not to an individual collection agency. Collection agencies are not authorized to ask for cash or checks written to individuals.

The Client Services Division, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate provides assistance with personal income tax preparation, debt collection disputes, and responding to federal and state agencies attempting to collect tax debts. To speak with a Client Services Division attorney, call 410-278-1583 or call the Tax Center, 410-278-2020. To verify the credentials of an individual claiming to be from the IRS or working on behalf of the IRS, contact the IRS directly by calling 1-800-829-1040.

New Tax Center hours

The hours of the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Client Services Division Tax Center located in building 4117 Boothby Hill Road are Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., with tax preparations conducted from noon to 7 p.m. Walk-ins are accepted, no appointment is necessary.

Services, which are available until April 12, are free to active duty Soldiers, retirees and their families.

For more information, call 410-278-2020.

TTENTION ALL SOLDIERS

Soldiers charged and found guilty of a crime, could face confinement, loss of rank and discharge from the Army.

The APG Trial Defense Service office handles all types of military criminal matters, including felonies, misdemeanors and summary offenses against Soldiers.

Any Soldiers guestioned by their chain

of command or the police, advised of their rights or apprehended, should immediately request to speak to an attorney. With so much at stake, it is important to contact an attorney as soon as possible to protect a Soldier's rights and liberty.

Until given the opportunity to consult with an attorney, remember the "4 No's:"



Waiver of rights Statements (oral or written) Polygraphs Consent to be searched

For more information regarding these issues, or a Soldier's rights involving a military criminal matter, call the APG Trial Defense Service office, 410-278-2156 or DSN 298-2156.



Channel 21 features Pentagon Channel programming

The Pentagon Channel will feature the following programs on Channel 21. These programs are subject to change each week and will be updated accordingly.

Monday

ATS Reloaded, 5:30 a.m. American Veteran, 9:30 a.m. Army Newswatch, 11 a.m. Freedom Journal Iraq, 1 p.m. Around the Services, 5:30 p.m. Focus on the Force, 10 p.m.

Tuesday

Around the Services, 8 a.m. and

Pacific Report/AFN Europe Report, 11 a.m. Focus on the Force, 1 p.m.

Freedom Journal Iraq, 4 p.m. Wednesday

Around the Services, 8 a.m., 8 p.m. Army Newswatch, 9:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.

American Veteran, 1 p.m. Freedom Journal Iraq, 2 p.m. Around the Services, 3:30 p.m. Focus on the Force, 6:30 p.m.

Around the Services, 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Army Newswatch, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Freedom Journal Iraq, Noon Focus on the Force, 1 p.m. Around the Services, 3:30 p.m. American Veteran, 5 p.m.

Around the Services, 8 a.m. and

Army Newswatch, 10:30 a.m. RECON, Noon State Department, 2:30 p.m. Freedom Journal Iraq, 4 p.m. Focus on the Force, 6:30 p.m.

ATS Reloaded, 7 p.m. Saturday

Around the Services, 5:30 a.m. News Reel Anaconda, 7:30 a.m. American Veteran, 1:30 p.m. ATS Reloaded, 5:30 p.m. Battleground, 7 p.m. RECON, 8 p.m.

Sunday

ATS Reloaded, 5:30 a.m., 9:30 p.m. Freedom Journal Iraq, 10:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m.

Today's Military, 1 p.m. Around the Service, 7:30 p.m.

Army Newswatch - Bi-weekly report on the men and women of the

Around the Services – From the Pentagon Channel NewsCenter, daily half-hour program featuring military news from top defense officials and the military services from around the world

RECON - A monthly information television program providing an in-depth look at a variety of topics, highlighting the accomplishments of U.S. Military men and women.

Your Corps – Monthly view of the men and women of the Marine Corps

Freedom Journal Iraq - A daily news program produced by American Forces Network Iraq. The program focuses on military missions, operations and U.S. military forces in Iraq

Navy Marine Corp News – A weekly look at the men and women of today's sea service.

Opportunity Showcase - A monthly program dealing with a variety of subjects that benefit small business owners, transitioning military members and other subjects of opportunity-produced by the United States Air Force

The American Veteran - A halfhour video news magazine designed to inform veterans, their families and their communities about the services and benefits they have earned through their service to America and to recognize and honor that service

Battleground - Every weekend, this series features historic films from WWII, Korean War, and the Vietnam War. A Pentagon Channel Original Series

Focus on the Force – A weekly program highlighting missions, operations and people of the U.S. military.

Inside Afghanistan – Presents the latest from Operation Enduring Freedom, showing the activities of American Troops in country.

ATS Reloaded - ATS-Reloaded revisits the best of the week and keeps you updated on information that's important to you.

Army News

Army's Equipment 'Reset' Program ahead of 2006 pace

Story by **GERRY J. GILMORE** Armed Forces Press Service

The combination of available money and around-the-clock work is enabling the Army to increase the pace of refurbishment of equipment that's damaged or worn out from service in Afghanistan and Iraq, senior military leaders testified before a joint U.S. House committee on Capitol Hill Jan. 31.

The Army received \$17.1 billion from Congress for fixing war-ravaged military equipment for fiscal 2007 and has obligated \$11.2 billion of those funds, Brig. Gen. Charles Anderson, the Army's director of Force Development, said before members of the Readiness and Air and Land Forces subcommittees.

Another \$6.5 billion has been obligated for procurement of new equipment, Anderson said, noting that \$4.7 billion more has been made available for operational and maintenance needs.

Anderson thanked Congress for providing the funding. Those refit and maintenance dollars are very important to the Army in a time of war when trucks, tanks and helicopters are racking up excessive mileage or flight time and otherwise experiencing hard service during combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, he said.

"Tanks today are running at five times the program's rate; trucks, five to six times their program usage, and they are running, as you well know, with heavy armor; helicopters, five to six times their program usage," Anderson said.

However, current refurbishment efforts "will reverse the effects of stress on all our equipment," Anderson said.

About 20,000 pieces of war-ravaged equipment like Bradley Fighting Vehicles, Abrams tanks, artillery pieces and wheeled vehicles were repaired and made ready for continued service in 2005, said Army Brig. Gen. Robert Radin, who also testified at the hearing. Radin is the U.S. Army Materiel Command's deputy chief of staff for



Photo by STAFF SGT. D. MYLES CULLEN, USAF

Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division's 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team -- formerly the 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team -- perform maintenance on the different components of the Stryker vehicle at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, as part of the new "Reset" process.

Logistics and Operations.

About 33,000 pieces of Army equipment were repaired in 2006, Radin said, adding that about 47,000 pieces of equipment are slated for refurbishment in 2007.

"We've seen a steady build [in the pace of equipment refurbishments] over the years," he said.

Stateside maintenance depots are humming with activity, Radin said. An additional 1,300 employees are being hired to accommodate the increased work, he noted.

The Army term for the equipment refurbishment process is called

'reset', Anderson said. "Reset is a series of actions to restore a unit to a desired level of combat capability commensurate with future missions," he said. "Reset consists of three components: repair, replace and recapitalize."

Repair starts with an inspection followed by maintenance and possible replacement of some parts to bring equipment to original technical specifications, Anderson said. Replacement "is to buy new," he said, to replace equipment destroyed in battle or otherwise too damaged to fix. Also listed under replacement is reserve-component equipment that's been left overseas for other units to use, he said.

Recapitalizing involves overhaul-

ing or restoring equipment to improve performance or make it like new from the factory, Anderson said.

"Reset, in simplest terms, will reverse the effects of stress on all our equipment," Anderson said.

Funding from Congress will be used to reset 24 brigade combat teams involving about 4,000 Soldiers and about 40,000 pieces of equipment returning from duty in Afghanistan and Iraq, he said.

Funding provided by Congress "has allowed us to synchronize resources and to increase the velocity and the effectiveness of reset," Anderson told committee members."

"For instance, timely funding

has allowed the depots to order repair parts in advance of equipment arrival." Anderson said.

Maintenance depots have increased "in workload and capacity," Radin said. And, when required, depot maintenance crews can perform rapid shifting of work from, say, conducting repairs on trucks to tanks, he said.

"In my personal estimate, I think we're about six months ahead of where we were last year in our program and being able to see it, execute, order the repair parts (and) get the repair parts so that they're on hand as the equipment comes in,"

Walter Reed puts 'full-court press' on fixing Building 18

FRED W. BAKER III American Forces Press Service

The Army surgeon general's staff is putting a "full-court press" on fixing the backed-up repairs needed at Walter Reed Army Medical Center's outpatient Building 18, the service's top medical officer said Feb. 22.

Flanked by a host of staff officers and facing a small army of media, Army Lt. Gen. (Dr.) Kevin C. Kiley said most of the reported maintenance issues that brought the center into the national spotlight will be fixed by March 4.

Kiley also said a major renovation is planned for the building - a former hotel used to house outpatients and their families - that will overhaul it entirely, including its heating and air

Because the Soldiers there will have to move, the timing has not been set. Planners want to cause minimal disruption to the Soldiers, Kiley said.

Officials allowed media to tour the building, as well as another building that houses outpatient Soldiers, the Mologne House. Soldiers milled around Building 18 shooting pool and playing video games as reporters and photographers flocked around them.

The halls throughout the 54-room building smelled of bleach and plaster. Contractors went about repairing plumbing and painting walls. Finished rooms were on display.

The same Soldier pictured in newspaper reports standing next to a moldy wall was now being photographed standing with the Army's

and painted room.

Another Soldier, Spc. Ruben Villalpando, said he is happy he can get a warm shower now. For the past several months, his water has varied from extremely hot to cold, he said.

"Now it will be a lot better," he said. "You fix my shower and I'm good.'

Within walking distance of the hospital's Georgia Avenue entrance, Building 18 was bought by the Army

In 2005 the Army spent more than \$260,000 replacing the carpet in all of the rooms and fixing up the lobby and game room. New mattresses and tables were placed in each room. The game room got a new pool table, games and a plasma television. Security cameras also were installed.

The rooms are apartment-style, with two bedrooms sharing a common kitchen area and bath. Each has a microwave and a small refrigerator.

There are 76 Soldiers living in the building. It can house 106.

Kiley said his staff also is looking into reported problems with the bureaucracy of the medical process and personnel system. He admitted that the outpatient process can, at times, be bureaucratic, and that it needs to be streamlined.

"We want to be responsive to their (patients') concerns, both medical and quality of life, and we're going to move out smartly on that," he said. "We worry when Soldiers think we are ignoring them. We want to correct that."

Kiley said officials are looking at



Photos by FRED W. BAKER III

This is a photograph of a typical bedroom at Building 18. The rooms are apartment-style with two bedrooms sharing a common kitchen area and bath. Each has a microwave and a small refrigerator.

adding more case managers. At one time, one case manager was responsible for 120 Soldiers, Kiley said. Now the ratio is about 1 to 30 Soldiers, and officials will look at lowering the ratio even further, he said.

Some of the problems are systemic across the Army and the Defense Department, Kiley acknowledged, but he said he would call on service officials, and Congress if needed, to fix the problems. Primarily, he said, he hopes to streamline the medical and physical board process that determines the administrative disposition of Soldiers' cases that is lengthy and bureaucratic.

Kiley said that, while there is no

excuse for the problems cited in news reports, those problems are not indicative of the care all service members and their families receive at the center.

The hospital has a staff of 4,200 and has treated more than 6,000 wounded Soldiers in the past five years. The population of outpatients at Walter Reed increased from prewar levels of about 120 to a peak of more than 874 Soldiers in 2005.

Over the next few weeks, the hospital staff will review about 30 outstanding work orders, according to a Walter Reed news release. The hospital already has completed more than 200 maintenance projects in the past year, the release reported.

This is a typical bathroom in Building 18.

TILT: Language and cultural learning via video gaming

J.D. LEIPOLD

Army News Service

By the time Soldiers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade and other units of the Southern European Task Force in Vincenza, Italy, have stepped foot in Iraq, they've already spoken Arabic face-to-face with Iraqis on Baghdad streets.

Caserma Ederle's Battle Command Training Center provides the "virtual" Iraqis to train Soldiers in language proficiency and cultural awareness through computer video games with animated characters and life-like

conduct downrange.

The tactical Iraqi language and culture training, known as TILT, requires no instructor and is done solely on a self-paced basis. The 100hour course is set up on computers like a video game with voice-activated commands and characters who respond in kind and with gestures.

Like popular civilian video games, TILT is user-friendly and difficult to stop playing.

"Everyone plays video games now days," said Pvt. Ryan Soto. "And everyone seems to work on a computer, so instead of sitting there trying to read a book and pay attention and

simulations that emphasize missions they'll actually keep motivated, you can sit here on the computer."

TILT players listen to and speak Iraqi Arabic using headset microphones. Soldiers receive immediate feedback and guidance from the program on how, what and when to speak Arabic, as well as tips on what kind of body language to use when conversing.

TILT demonstrates to Soldiers the importance of body movement in conjunction with speaking a foreign language, sending a communication message that it's not just what you say,

but how you say it. "How you say hello, why you place your Cyberspace.")

hand over your chest when you say hello tie cultural aspects to the people as well as to the language itself," said Maj. John Woodard, SETAF simulations officer.

By enabling Soldiers in the field to communicate directly with Iraqi civilians and members of the Iraqi military and police forces, the Army expects to establish constructive relationships and gain firsthand information that will lead to a greater exchange of trust and cooperation between the Army and Iraqi citizens.

(Editor's note: This story was adapted from an AFN Europe story titled "Battling in



Your health is KUSAHC's goal



KUSAHC introduces health care providers

HEATHER TASSMER

The Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic experienced a shortage in staff last summer. These profiles are of those who joined the staff during the past several months, overcoming the shortage and helping patients in need.

Dr. Charles McCannon

McCannon came to Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic in October to work as the deputy commander of Clinical Services. He brings with him 24 years of military service.

McCannon grew up in Harford County and is a 1976 graduate of Aberdeen High School. In 1981, he graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park, where he received a bachelor's degree in psychology. He joined the Army as a pharmacy technician.

1986 as a health care administrator. Later, he attended

medical school at the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, Md.

He served as the preventive medicine officer for the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force where he was responsible for preventive medicine and medical surveillance programs for all military forces in western Iraq (Al Anbar Providence of Iraq). He provided preventive medicine, disaster medicine and international medicine consultation to commanding officers, medical planners, physicians and other healthcare providers, in support of international and domestic missions, including the Global War on Terrorism and numerous peacekeeping and humanitarian missions. In addition, McCannon has been deployed to the Persian Gulf for the support of Operation Southern Watch in 1997 and to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2005.

McCannon not only brings a well-rounded history of military experience to his job but also a family tradition of working at the proving ground. His father, Lewis "Mac" McCannon Sr., worked as a military police

Mydlarz is not new to APG or KUSAHC, but

started his new position as the chief of General

Medicine Clinic(APG North), Troop Medical

Clinic and Immunizations Clinic, laboratory

clinical consultant and dive medical officer in

December 2006. He also works as an Army

"As an ASAP consultant I work with Behave

ioral Health providers upstairs to ensure that

Soldiers with alcohol [or] drug problems are

getting the right help from a purely medical stand-point with prescriptions, accuracy of

diagnoses, etc." Mydlarz said. "The Behavioral

moved to Michigan with his family and then

moved to Rochester, NY, for the last two years

York in Buffalo, where he graduated with a

bachelor's in biology. He attended the Univer-

dency at Walter Reed Army Medical Center

where he met his wife, Amy Millikan, who is

a preventive medicine physician. He performed

three years of the five year requirement because

2004 but shortly after starting, he was deployed

to Saudi Arabia, where he spent 6 months as a

eral medicine officer/physician and was promoted

to chief of the General Medicine Clinic and Troop

Medical Clinic in the summer of 2005.

Mydlarz came to KUSAHC in the summer of

After returning he came back to Kirk as a gen-

Mydlarz said he likes the fact that his job at

he changed his specialty to general medicine.

sity of Rochester, NY, for medical school.

Mydlarz was born in Poland. At age 15, he

He attended the State University of New

Mydlarz performed a general surgery resi-

Substance Abuse Program consultant.

Health folks do all the counseling."

of high school.

Dr. Dariusz G. Mydlarz



After four years in the Charles McCannon, deputy commander of Clinical Services, left, dis-Army, he joined the Navy in cusses paperwork with Mavis Roberts, a Referral Management Division employee, right.

officer and in the 1960s, 70s and early 80s as a civilian test driver. His mother, Grace McCannon, worked in the photography lab in the 1940s and early 50s.

McCannon discussed what it is like to work for KUSAHC.

"Kirk is pretty challenging and it has the same issues that any health care organization faces," he said.

He said he feels comfortable working in a military environment and that it helped to make an "easy transition" for him.

"It's kind of like another duty station for me," McCannon said.

McCannon said that another aspect of being a DCCS is the interactions with higher

He also has personal interest in KUSAHC because his family is enrolled there. His family includes his wife, Stephanie; his 8-year-old son, Chase; and his two daughters, Sara Grace, 6, and Charlotte, 3.

When McCannon is not at KUSAHC, he is spending time with his family, reading and exercising.

Darius Mydlarz, chief of General Medicine Clinic, listens to the heartbeat of a patient.

"No day is the same," he said. "There are always a lot of changes. Most are good and some are difficult."

He explained that most of the changes happen to the workforce because of turnover of

contract physicians and active duty providers. Not only does the physician staff shift with members moving on to other jobs or getting deployed but other staffs change also, Myd-

"More recently Kirk experienced a loss of an active duty radiology tech and several medics while gaining several providers, which created additional challenges in meeting the clinic's mission," he said.

Dr. Okechukwu Nwodim

Nwodim came to the KUSAHC in August 2006 as a contract physician.

Nwodim was born in Nigeria and grew up in England where she attended a boarding school. She received a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of London and attended West Virginia University for medical training.

Nwodim served a residency in family practice at Ohio Valley Medical Center.

Then she worked at St. Jos-eph's Hospital in West Virginia in the Emergency Room Step Down unit.

Before coming to KUSAHC, she worked as a family practice physician for Mid-Atlantic Permanente Medical Group in

She said that KUSAHC is "a new experience because it is more controlled."

At other work places she wasn't sure how many patients she would see in a day because



Okechukwu Nwodim, contract physician, examines a patient's ear.

there were walk-ins, she said.

plays tennis and piano.

"I like it here because it is more organized," Nwodim said. "I also don't have a lot of late patients."

She said her goal is to "get as much experi-

ence working with the military as possible." In her spare time, Nwodim goes for walks,

Dr. (Capt.) Matthew Slane

Slane, originally from Miramar, Fla., came to KUSAHC in October 2006 as a physician.

He attended Stetson University in central Florida for his undergraduate degree.

After receiving his bachelor of science in biology, Slane joined the Army. His highest rank was a quarter master officer at Fort Benning, Ga.

Slane attended Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., for medical school. Before joining the KUSAHC staff, he was completing a residency in general surgery at Eisenhower Army Medical Center at Fort Gordon, Ga.

"It's great to be around young Soldiers," he said when asked what it is like to work for KUSAHC. "Kirk is a comfortable and pleasant working environment.'

Slane said that he is "always



Capt. Matthew Slane, physician, left, has a consultation with Joe Caudill, physician's assistant, right.

open for people to call him if they have any questions."

He said his future plans include finishing a surgery residency and a "strong possibility" of continuing a career in the military.

Slane and his wife, Tammy, live in Abingdon, with their 15-month-old, Nicholas.

In his spare time he enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, playing golf, baseball and other sports.

Joe Caudill

Caudill joined KUSAHC as a physician's assistant on Oct. 2, 2006.

A native of Airville, Pa., Caudill attended Gettysburg College where he received his bachelor's egree in biology, moving on to St. Francis University for his physician assistant training.

He is a member of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop 1/104 Cavalry, 28th Infantry Division for the Pennsylvania Army National Guard. He has served in several units for the PAARNG throughout the last 12 years. Caudill was on active duty for four years and was deployed for a year in Bosnia where he practiced internal medicine. His highest rank in the PAANG was first lieutenant.

After returning from Bosnia, Caudill worked in the emergency room for Upper Chesapeake Medical Center and Harford Memorial Hospital where he still works part-time.

Caudill said that working for KUSAHC has been a "bit of a transition" since he changed from working in the emergency room to working with office medicine.

The remaining members have to "juggle priorities and personalities," change in schedules and "develop alternate plans for a constantly shifting workforce."

Other challenges KUSAHC faces are meeting Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations new regulatory requirements.

"Although these new regulatory requirements should lead to improved patient safety, a worthy goal, they create additional work for the already busy staff," he said.



Joe Caudill, physician's assistant, right, checks Mavis Roberts, a Referral Management Division employee,

In addition, he said, "I am happy to be here. I want to build a rapport with patients, get to know them better and provide excellent care."

In his spare time, he visits his brothers and sister in Airville.

Making sure that certain KUSAHC departments are meeting these requirements is just one of Mydlarz's responsibilities. His job involves supervising the General Medicine Clinic, Troop Medical Clinic and Immunizations Clinic.

Mydlarz and his wife live in Silver Spring, Md., with their two sons, 3-year-old Alexander and 8-month-old Anthony.

In his spare time, he likes to spend time with his family, travel, play guitar and play or watch basketball, soccer and various other sports.

FDA warns consumers not to eat certain peanut butter Product codes with '2111' may be contaminated with Salmonella Tennessee

Federal Drug Administration

general medical officer.

Kirk is "never boring."

The Food and Drug Administration is warning consumers not to eat certain jars of Peter Pan or Great Value peanut butter due to the risk of contamination with Salmonella Tennessee (a bacterium that causes food borne illness).

The affected jars of Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter have a product code located on the lid of the jar that begins with the number "2111."

Both the Peter Pan and Great Value brands are manufactured in a single facility in Georgia by ConAgra. Great Value peanut butter made by other manufacturers is not affected. If consumers have any of these peanut butter brands in their home that have been purchased since May 2006, they should discard.

As of Feb. 16, ConAgra Foods removed from their shelves also." has authorized retailers to accept returns of open or unopened jars of Peter Pan Peanut Butter or Great Value Peanut Butter marked with a product code beginning with 2111 for a full refund.

"Commissary customers may return jars that match the code, even if they don't have a receipt," said Anne Morrison, APG Commisary lead support clerk.

These brands have been removed from the APG Commissary shelves and a notice is displayed where the two brands were previously displayed warning consumers to check their shelves at home and return suspect jars to the commissary.

"The PX does not carry this peanut butter, but both Shoppettes do," said Debbie Armendariz, store manager, Aberdeen PX. "They have been

Other off-post shoppers should return peanut butter to the store where purchased, or send the Peter Pan Peanut Butter or Great Value Peanut Butter lid or label with the product code beginning with 2111 along with shopper's name and mailing address for a full refund to ConAgra Foods, P.O. Box 3768, Omaha, NE 68103.

Symptoms of food borne illness caused by Salmonella include fever, diarrhea and abdominal cramps.

In people with poor underlying health or weakened immune systems, Salmonella can invade the bloodstream and cause life-threatening infections. Individuals who have recently eaten Peter Pan and Great Value brand peanut butter beginning with product code 2111 and have experienced any

their doctor or health care provider immediately. Any such illnesses should be reported to state or local health authorities.

FDA's warning is based on a just-completed epidemiological study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the states and local health agencies, which links 288 cases of food borne illness in 39 states to consumption of varying types of Peter Pan peanut butter. This report was provided to FDA on Feb. 13.

The outbreak appears to be ongoing and the first consumer may have become ill in August 2006.

The cause of food borne illnesses can be difficult to identify.

As a result of extensive epidemiological testing and recent case control studies, CDC was recently able to

of these symptoms should contact identify Peter Pan peanut butter as the likely cause of illness.

Great Value brand peanut butter beginning with product code 2111 is manufactured in the same plant as Peter Pan peanut butter and, thus, is believed to be at similar risk of contamination.

ConAgra is recalling all Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter beginning with product code 2111 that already was distributed. The company also is destroying all affected products in their pos-

The company will cease production until the exact cause of contamination can be identified and eliminated.

FDA will provide regular updates as more information becomes available.

Consumers who have questions should contact ConAgra at 866-344-

Sports



Photo courtesy of ARMY RACING

Mark Martin led 26 of the final 27 laps before being overtaken by Kevin Harvick at the finish line of the Daytona 500 at Daytona Beach, Fla., Feb. 18. Harvick's margin of victory was 0.020 seconds.

01 Army Strong falls inches short of winning Daytona 500

U.S. Army Racing

"I just can't tell you how bad I wanted it," said Mark Martin seconds after climbing out of his No. 01 U.S. Army Chevrolet following the Feb. 19 Daytona 500. "We gave it our best shot — we were within inches of getting it done."

"All I asked for was a chance to win and they [Ginn Racing and the No. 01 U.S. Army Team] gave me that today. I never asked for the trophy, I just asked for a real shot at it and that's exactly what I had — my best ever opportunity to win the Daytona 500."

Martin led 26 of the final 27 laps before being overtaken by Kevin Harvick at the finish line. Harvick's margin of victory was 0.020 seconds.

"When I looked up there at the end, I was minus any pushers," explained Martin. "I didn't have any help to get it done, and that's the way it goes."

Martin was in the lead when cars started crashing on the final lap, but the caution surprisingly never came out. Had NASCAR waved the yellow flag, the 48-year Martin would have been declared the winner.

The second-place result was Martin's career-best Daytona 500 result. His previous best was third in 1995.

"I'm so proud of the effort that we gave here tonight and so proud to represent the U.S. Army," added Martin. "This is the Soldiers' car, and I hope we made them proud today."

Martin started the race 26th and spent much of the day patiently and methodically working his way through the draft, while in constant communication with crew chief Ryan Pemberton on how to improve the car's performance.

Martin moved inside the top 10 on lap 144 and broke inside the top five nine laps later.

Running fourth when a caution came out on lap 156, a 13.6-second stop by the U.S. Army crew sent Martin to second place when green-flag racing resumed.

Martin spent the next several laps battling the front runners, but was unable to overtake the leader, eventually being shuffled back to eighth before the fourth caution of the race.

Pemberton opted for twotires on the next pit stop and Martin returned to the field leading the Daytona 500. He would lead the remainder of the race, with the exception of the final inches.

"We were so close and I just hope that I gave all of our Soldiers something to cheer about," Martin said. "I really wanted to win with all my heart. I'm honored to work with this Army team, and this was a great way to kick off my start with Ginn Racing."

Visit **APG News** online at apg.army.mil

Chapel News

"Tools Four Success" Workshop

A "Tools Four Success" Workshop on Peer Pressure, Conflict and Problem Solving, Prevention of Gangs, Confidence and Self-Esteem will be held 9:15 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 10. The Maryland Community Crime Prevention Association will host the workshop for all youths ages 11 to 18, youth Protestant Women of the leaders and parents.

Lunch will be provided. Registration is mandatory and forms can be picked up at the Main Post (APG North) Chapel or Child Youth Services

For more information, e-mail gerri.merkel@apg.army.mil. Catholic Women of the Chapel (CWOC)

sponsors a Children's Play Group,

9 to 11 a.m., each Wednesday at

the Main Post Chapel playroom.

dren are invited to join others for

Catholic religious education

day except holidays after the

8:45 a.m. Main Post Chapel

1st Eucharist, Reconciliation

with and Confirmation with

children and parents are also

Celebration of Confirmation

tion for Catholic 8th graders

will be celebrated 6 p.m.,

March 2, with Bishop Frank

Higgins from the Military

Archdiocese in Washington,

For more information, call

the chapel, 410-278-2516 or

D.C., officiating.

A Celebration of Confirma-

mass. Sacramental classes of

Classes are held every Sun-

some "fun time."

available.

Parents and their small chil-

The CWOC meets 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. every other Monday at the Main Post Chapel, Check the bulletin boards at the Main or South Chapel for a complete schedule.

Chapel (PWOC)

The PWOC meets 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., each Thursday and 7 p.m. on Mondays.

Children's Play Group Army Community Service



Basketball update

The following results were received from the APG Sports Office for the week ending Feb. 16.

Teams unable to make a scheduled game are reminded to notify the APG Sports Office at least 24 hours in advance. For inquiries regarding statistics, call 410-278-2939.

APG	North
Resu	lts

FEB. 20

HHC 16th, 52; USAF, 36 Company C 16th, win; Company B 16th, forfeit

FEB. 21

Company A 16th, 40; Company C 16th, 34 KUSAHC, 48; USMC #2, 33

HHC 16th, 55; Company B 16th, 45 USAF, 40; USMC, 28

Schedule

MARCH 1 (LAST GAME OFTHE SEASON)

6:30 p.m., Company A 16th vs. **KUSAHC** 7:30 p.m., HHC 16th vs. USMC #2

(Playoffs begin Monday, March 5.)

STANDINGS

Company C 16th

HHC 16th **KUSAHC** 6 - 2 6 - 2 Company A 16th Company B 16th Company E 16th 2 - 5 USMC #2 USAF

0 - 6

APG South

Results

FEB. 20

USMC

Company A 143rd, 100; Company C 143rd, 26 CHPPM, win; CBRNE, forfeit

FEB. 21

Company A 143rd, 48; CHPPM, 43 Company B 143rd, 37; Company C 143rd, 21

STANDINGS

CBRNE	8 - 2
	0 - 2
CompanyA 143rd	7 - 1
CHPPM	7 - 3
Company B 143rd	4 - 6
AML	3 - 6
Company C 143rd	2 - 8
MRICD	1 - 7

LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail rondamckinney@ usag.apg.army.mil.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

James Addas Sarah Blevins William Bond Debra Bonsall (daughter has brain tumor) Jeanie Bowman Kim Brooks **Leroy Carter** Stephen Carter Rogelio Chevannes **Brett Christy** John Daigle Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo) Jeannette Dennis Marc Devecchio

Susan Gorhan **Hester Haves** Cathleen Holmes Rick Jernigan Carolyn Johnson Karen Kimble Beverly King (caring for husband) Lydia Langley Joyce Mauldin Louis McCarter (kidney failure) Sandra Miller Karen Moss Trudie Norman Ify Okoye Mary Pettiway **Carol Piper**

Lester Pilcher Karen Privet **Greg Pryor** Judith Rembold Barbara Seker Joyce Spies Joan Taeuber Lavonne Telsee Alison Tichenor Elizabeth Usmari Christine Wheaton Kimberly Windisch **Louis Winters** Roberta Witherspoon **Sharon Woods Charles Young**